

# THE ROSE PETAL



A Member of the American Rose Society

## CALENDAR

**APRIL 24, GPBRS mtg., Dr. Satish Prabha, virtual speaker See pg. 2**

**APRIL 24 - Victor Lazzari will attend and bring copies of his new book for sale and signing**

**APRIL 29, 30 MOUNTS Plant-A-Palooza**

**MAY 6 Trip to Port St Lucie Botanical Garden**

**MAY 5 - 7 ARS National Rose Show, Shreveport LA**

**MAY 20, GPBRS annual picnic, at Petra Russell's home.**

## CONTENTS:

- 1, Presidents' Letter
- 2..April 24, GPBRS meeting, 7:00 pm, Mounts Auditorium Dr, Satish Prabha, "Simplifying Soil Prep, planting & fertilizing roses."
3. American Rose Society National Rose Show, May 5-7 details
- 4.GPBRS NEWS NEWS NEWS
5. Mounts Plant-A-Palooza
6. Odds/Ends, Choosing a Potted Rose
7. Ten Tips to Growing Great Roses
8. ARS membership
9. Membership Application, internet Resources
10. Florida Rose Resources
11. Board of Directors, Consulting
12. Picnic at Petra's - Yay!
13. - 15 Garden Trip to Port St Lucie

[gpbrs.org](http://gpbrs.org)

Your Co-Presidents, Geoff & Debbie Coolidge



April showers!! Finally we are getting much needed rain. We have lots of exciting events coming up. Be sure to save the dates so you do not miss out. We need your help at the spring plant sale at the Mounts Botanical Gardens. Volunteers will get free entrance to the sale. The sign up sheet will be at the next meeting.

As most of you know we sold our house last year and are slowly getting closer to our dream of living in the mountains. With that said I am moving up north after this month and Geoff will be staying here running the business. The rent we are paying here is just too costly. He will be staying with friends and going back and forth for now. Baby steps, one day at a time. I have met so many wonderful rosarians over the years but I can tell you – the rose society has a strong dedicated board (the best in many years) Please step up when they need help. Geoff and I love you all and we plan on coming back when we can and we certainly expect to see you up north for a visit, Debbie



Satish Prabhu, M.D.

“I would like to talk about simplifying friar soil prep, planting and fertilizing, pruning and fertilizing. That would be based on my experience of growing roses over sixty years. While none of this is totally “newly discovered,” it should save a lot of time energy and resources by not doing things that do not make any difference to how the roses grow and perform. “

Satish has been growing roses since 1959 and has grown them on two continents. His garden containing 650 bushes was featured on the garden tour of the ARS spring national convention in 1993. He has been a life-member of the ARS since 1977 and has been exhibiting roses at the national level since 1985. He has won a record 108 national trophies

DR. SATISH PRABHU will be our April 24 speaker by video link. Come to the meeting in person, or tune in through the video link below.

from 1985 to 2022. He has been awarded the outstanding CR, Outstanding Judge and the ARS Silver Honor Medal at the district level, the ARS Bronze medal from the Greater Columbia Rose Society and the South Carolina Rose Society and the national Blake Hedrick award for lifetime achievement in exhibiting roses. He is a master rosarian, and serves as the chairman of the national exhibitors' committee. He frequently gives presentations at the local, district and national meetings and conventions. He has written many award-winning articles for several local rose societies and district newsletters. He is a contributing editor to the American Rose and the American Rose Annuals.

Dr. Prabhu will be speaking to us via a video connection. His deep knowledge and experience is sure to enhance our own.

The link is: <https://meet.jit.si/gpbrs>

## **The American Rose Society hosts the National Rose Show & Convention at America's Rose Center**

***Come Home to America's Rose Garden***

**Friday, May 5, 2023, 1:30 pm – 5:00 pm (Full Show)**

**Saturday, May 6, 2023, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm (Show  
Winners, Arrangements & Photography only)**

We are excited to welcome **all** rose growers regardless of residence. Registration is required and entries are to have been grown by the exhibitor in a private outdoor garden.

For questions contact

Linda Clark: [lineline@cox.net](mailto:lineline@cox.net)

**GPBRS NEWS, April 2023.***by The Editor, Kathy Rose*

As you may have noticed, our club has been going through many changes. The good news is that over the last couple of years, we have gained many (fairly) new members, and welcomed back some former members. Bev Lichtenstein has rejoined us, and brought her daughter Linda as well. New members David and Bari Byron hosted our Christmas party, and Dave is our hospitality guy. Larry Auton has volunteered to be the Membership Chair, a post that's been empty since our lovely Nakita had to step into a new role as mommy, Denise Abruzzese (who presented a program late last year) has volunteered to take over the Treasurer role from Bob Ewart, Petra Russell has offered her garden for our May picnic (for the second year!), Lois Petzold and Susan Leikin volunteer for everything! We have several new-ish members I don't know well yet, but hope to see at our picnic next month (see page 12 for details) They are: John Sabel, Janet Shaw, Susan Scott, Adrian Rodrigues, Margarita Baez, Ursula Brutton, Debby Knapp, Laura Jentzsch, Kim Wendt, Joy Darling, Deirdre Auton, Chris Moran, Anne Nourse.

I just mentioned that Bob Ewart will be stepping down as Treasurer. He's done a great job for us for several years, as Treasurer, webmaster, and dependable volunteer for plant sales and rose shows. His ice cream is a perennial favorite at our parties! Bob has so many interests and hobbies - try asking him about his cars! Bob is having a few medical issues at this point, so doesn't feel he can dependably attend board meetings. Thank you Larry, for assuming the mantle of Treasurer. We hope Bob will continue to volunteer in other ways, especially with ICE CREAM!!

We'll miss Bob on the Board, but want to thank other Board members for their contribution to the success of our club. Without Bill Langford, our current Past President, and Consulting Rosarian, who has filled just about every role over many years, the club would have floundered at times. Thank you Bill. Frank and Karen Sullivan have stepped up and made so many valuable contributions in time, creativity and energy, I don't have room here to list them. We're lucky to have them.. Fred Frappier, former Treasurer and co-President; well, without Fred there are so many things that wouldn't happen. How many of you know that Fred comes to be at the auditorium by 4:30 every meeting day to hold the door open for us? Without Fred, we'd be locked out. He is our cupboard organizer, transporter of show and sale materials, rose garden nurturer and the list goes on. A big thank you to Fred. MARIA WOLFE! What would we do without Maria?? We've had a vacancy at the First Vice President post this past year. Maria wanted to help but has had her hands full as president of the Wellington Garden Club. But somehow, the job got done, and many more jobs as well, because of Maria. She is an amazing organizer. Mike Becker has gardened on three continents, is our Master Consulting Rosarian, our go to guy for the Rose Show, and drives an hour and a half each way to attend our meetings! That's dedication.

Finally, we must pay tribute to Debbie and Geoff Coolidge. This couple has been the mainstay of our club. Not only have they been co-presidents for the last two (or three?) years, they have acted as liaison with the ARS and the Deep South District of ARS, as Consulting Rosarians, organized Rose Shows, donated countless raffle roses, and basically kept the wheels turning for the rose society. There aren't many people in the rose world they don't know or who don't know them. If you read their letter on page one, you know they are finally going to realize their dream of moving north. We wish them good health and happiness in that clear (cold) mountain air and hope they don't forget us. Don't forget your cozy socks...

# *Mounts Botanical Garden*

Will be holding their semi annual

## *Spring Plant-A-Palooza*

## *April 29 & 30*

Admission is *free* to volunteers

If you haven't already, please contact Bill Langford to volunteer 561-309-8736

SIGN UP FOR A FREE PASS AT THE MEETING

Mounts Botanical Garden provides *free* meeting space to our Rose Society. In return our members volunteer to provide information about our club, and this is one of our main sources for new members..

[mounts.org](https://mounts.org). for more information

GPBRS members will be disappointed not to be holding our annual rose show this year. But our fellow Florida rose society in Tampa has a show coming up in May. Details are on the right. As news of other Florida rose shows becomes available it will be posted in "The Rose Petal."

and article on garden.



## "Run for the Roses"

### 51st Annual Tampa Rose Society Rose Show

WestShore Plaza, 250 N West Shore Blvd,  
Tampa, FL

May 13, 2023 11:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Save the date! Come see award winning roses, arrangements and photographs! We will also have cut roses and rose arrangements for donations! Mother's Day is Sunday, May 14th!

If you would like to exhibit, please review our show schedule which will be distributed at our April meeting and on our website. Exhibitors start prepping after 6:00 am, process entries at classifications and finish by 9:00am. Judging starts at 10:00 am. Award presentations start at noon. Roses and arrangements will be available for donations from about 9:00 am and ends when all roses are gone!

Join us at the education table for more information about our Tampa Rose Society!

# Choosing a Potted Rose

By Baxter Williams, Master Rosarian

There they stand, all in rows, with stems beginning to turn into buds and flowers. This spring there will be new color in your yard. Where to begin?

You already know the varieties that you wish to purchase, so the choice is between bushes in their pots. Oh, wow! They all look so good! What shall be the deciding factors?

Well, why not choose the best and the biggest? Look for the rose with the largest bud union and the longest, thickest canes. There may be a choice or two to make while comparing bushes, such as whether two large canes are better than three medium ones, or the fat bud union is to be preferred over one having more or larger canes.

My own ordering of priorities, lowest number being most important is:

1. Size of the bud union
2. Size and number of canes
3. Low basal breaks showing
4. Length of canes.

The most-ideal combination of features would be a bush having a large, smooth bud union with three thumb-sized canes 15-18 inches in length, and with one or more basal breaks showing. Avoid bushes in small pots (below 3-gallon size), those having old bud unions, those with only one large cane, those with small or short canes, those with diseased bark or foliage.

A hint or two:

- Big root systems are to be desired; big root systems are not found in small pots.
- Dead canes don't grow.
- Black spotted foliage is always doomed; spots on leaves vanish when the leaves drop off.
- Scrawny bushes in pots are likely to be scrawny bushes in rose beds.

*Reprinted from the March 2011 issue of the Rose-Ette, newsletter of the Houston Rose Society, Patsy Williams, Editor.*

**Ten Tips to Growing Great Roses**

By Cindy Dale, ARS Master Rosarian

1. **Have a soil analysis done.** Take soil samples from each bed to your county extension service to determine the pH and amount of nutrients such as phosphorus, potassium, calcium and magnesium. Each of these is necessary in varying amounts to promote rose growth. The pH is a measure of acidity or alkalinity of the soil. Roses grow best when the pH is between 6 to 6.5. Our Georgia clay soil is usually acidic and the soil report will tell you if, and how much, dolomitic lime needs to be added to increase the pH as well as amounts of other nutrients that are lacking.
2. **Choose only healthy bushes.** At the nursery, select a bush that looks healthy, strong, and disease-free with a minimum of 3 thick canes.
3. **Choose the best planting site.** Pick an area that gets a minimum of 6 hours of sun/day. Raised beds are ideal. They are usually 24" to 36" high. The clay soil is removed and back filled with topsoil, organics, and other amendments. Raised beds provide excellent water drainage to ensure that the roses don't get "wet feet". The roots definitely do not like sitting in water. If raised beds are not possible, a properly prepared hole in the ground is perfectly acceptable.
4. **Plant the bush properly.** Dig the hole about 2.5 feet deep by 2.5 feet wide. In a wheelbarrow, put 1/3 soil from the hole or topsoil, 1/3 manure, and 1/3 clay buster or Nature's Helper. Mix this well with a shovel. Toss out any rocks, sticks, etc. Crumble the mixture with your fingers until it's very fine. Without taking the bush out of the container, set it in the hole. The top of the bud union (the knobby part at the base of the bush that the canes grow out of) should be even with the top of the hole. Cut the plastic nursery pot or box away from the bush, using a utility knife. I do not recommend leaving biodegradable boxes or peat moss pots in the hole even if the directions say it's OK. Fill the hole halfway with the prepared soil. Gently ease the bush out of the pot, being careful not to disturb the root ball. Place it in the hole. Fill the rest of the hole, around the bush, with the remaining soil; firmly pressing down the soil on top to form a saucer under the canes. Water well every day for the first 10-14 days then once a week.
5. **Fertilize regularly.** When fertilizing established bushes, wait until the soil warms up and the bushes are pruned. For new bushes, wait about 6 weeks or until after the bushes have bloomed for the first time. A special rose fertilizer is not required. Generic 10-10-10 fertilizer used once a month according to directions is fine or you can try one of the extended-release 3, 6, or 9-month rose formulas to decrease the frequency of application. Be sure to work the fertilizer well into the soil around each bush. Liquid formulations can also be used but are shorter acting and may need to be applied more often. Roses are heavy feeders and also require large doses of organic material such as compost, peat, manure, alfalfa, blood meal, bone meal or fish meal. Also, Epsom salts supplies magnesium, and gypsum supplies calcium *if your soil test says you need these*.
6. **Spray with a fungicide regularly.** Fungal diseases such as blackspot and powdery mildew are common in the south and are much easier to prevent than eradicate, once established. Blackspot is especially communicable to the rest of the bush and nearby bushes so your spray program should include regular applications of fungicide, normally weekly. Locally available systemic fungicides are BioAdvanced Disease Control (Tebuconazole), and Infuse by Bonide or Fertlome Systemic Fungicide (Propiconazole). Manzate/Mancozeb is a contact fungicide that kills active spores on the leaves and should be mixed in every tank with one of the systemic fungicides listed above. Manzate and other stronger fungicides such as Honor Guard or Cleary's 3336 can be mail ordered from [www.rosemania.com](http://www.rosemania.com). Systemics should be rotated to prevent resistance. When spraying, always use protective clothing and equipment, never spray on a windy day, and always spray in the early morning or evening since spraying in temperatures over 80 degrees can burn the leaves. When blackspot is first noticed, be sure to remove the diseased leaves and do not drop them on the ground or in the compost pile. If you see insects on your bushes, call your extension agent, nursery, or favorite rosarian to identify what you have and the proper remedy for it. There are specific sprays for each type of pest and space does not allow me to cover them all here.
7. **Prune correctly.** Roses in our climate should be pruned in late February to early March while still dormant. This removes dead wood and spindly, weak growth, and promotes bigger blooms. Hybrid Teas and Grandifloras can be pruned back to 1/2 to 2/3 of their original height. Shrubs, climbers, and floribundas need much lighter pruning. Once-blooming old garden roses should be lightly pruned *after* the spring bloom. Canes crossing the center need to be removed to open up the center for air circulation. Pruning cuts should be sealed with a thin layer of school glue to prevent cane borers from entering. All leaves still left on the plant from the previous season should be removed since they may harbor diseases that lasted through the winter.
8. **Deadhead spent blooms.** Throughout the growing season, deadhead flowers that are past their prime by cutting the stem directly above the first leaf that contains 5 leaflets. Cutting at this point allows the plant to quickly develop a new flower from the same stem.
9. **Water the bushes deeply and often.** Roses should be watered at the base of the bush by the roots. Making a saucer-like depression in the soil under the bush during planting will prevent water run-off. Each bush should receive at least one inch or 4-5 gallons per week. During the hottest part of the summer, more frequent watering may be needed.
10. **Winterize the bushes after the second hard frost.** In the mild southern climate, less protection is needed than up north but the bushes still need to be protected. This is accomplished by mounding mulch, compost, or manure high over the bud union. This prevents the graft site from experiencing wide temperature variations that could damage it. There should also be a thick blanket of mulch over the entire bed to insulate the roots and retain moisture. Long canes may need to be pruned back to keep them from whipping around in the wind.

Happy Rose Growing!

**EDITOR'S NOTE**

Beware of the many "FAKE" growing videos on YouTube. Fraser Valley Rose Farm, a reputable grower, has posted a few videos exposing these fakes, and how they are done. There are wonderful teaching videos on YouTube for everything from knitting to yoga to rose growing,, and many are very useful. BUT be agnostic when viewing any from a site you don't know of, especially from Asia. Unless you want a good laugh!

GREATER PALM BEACH ROSE SOCIETY, est. 1970

JANUARY 2022

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### Benefits of ARS Membership

You can renew (or join) online at: <http://www.rose.org/join-renew/>. Consider taking advantage of their four month, \$10 trial offer.

- Five issues of the *American Rose* magazine plus the end-of-the-year issue of the *American Rose Annual*. These bi-monthly 84-page issues, devoted exclusively to roses and rose culture, feature informative articles and beautiful color photography for beginners and experienced rose growers alike. View a [free issue](#) online.
- The annual issue of *The Handbook for Selecting Roses*, a rose-buying guide to over 3,000 roses.
- Members-only online access to Modern Roses Database with information on every rose variety.
- Online access to five quarterly bulletins, the *Mini/Miniflora Bulletin*, *Old Garden Rose & Shrub Gazette*, *Rose Arrangers' Bulletin*, *Rose Exhibitors' Forum* and *Singularly Beautiful Roses* are available online to ARS members only.
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- Discounts of up to 30% at merchant partners.

## UNPAID 2023 ROSE SOCIETY DUES ARE NOW "PAST DUES"

### ROSES ON THE WWW

[rosegardeningworld.com](http://rosegardeningworld.com)

[theheritagerosegroup.org](http://theheritagerosegroup.org)

[rosegardeningworld.com](http://rosegardeningworld.com)

[theheritagerosesgroup.org](http://theheritagerosesgroup.org)

[worldrose.org](http://worldrose.org)

[rosemagazine.com](http://rosemagazine.com)

Rose File: [www.rosefile.com](http://www.rosefile.com) (rose ID)

Help Me Find: [www.helpmefind.com](http://www.helpmefind.com) (rose ID)

American Rose Society:

[www.rose.org](http://www.rose.org) (rose information)

UCI IPM website:

<http://ipm.ucanr.edu> (pest information)

Baldo Villegas Bugs and Roses:

[www.sactorose.org](http://www.sactorose.org) (rose and pest info)

Heritage Rose Foundation: [https://](https://www.heritagerosefoundation.org)

[www.heritagerosefoundation.org](https://www.heritagerosefoundation.org) (education about and preservation of old roses)

[www.rosesbyping.com](http://www.rosesbyping.com)

### FACEBOOK

Cool Roses

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#Rose Chat

Rose Gardening World

## GREATER PALM BEACH ROSE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2023

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CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

(optional)

BIRTHDAY (MO.) \_\_\_\_\_ (DAY) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ NEW MEMBER \_\_\_ RENEWAL

Choose one type of membership below:

\_\_\_ ANNUAL MEMBERS DUES : \$25.00

\_\_\_ CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS : \$35.00

(Membership period runs from January to December. **As of January 2023, dues are \$25.00 for a single, \$35.00 for a couple or contributing member**

**Make checks payable to: GPBRS and mail with this form to:**

Denise Abruzzese, 4680 Foxview Place, Lake Worth, FL 33467

## FLORIDA ROSE RESOURCES

### Angel Gardens

P.O. Box 1106 Alachua, FL 32616

352-359; gardenangel22@gmail.com [www.angelgardens.com](http://www.angelgardens.com); Own-Root, Organically Grown, Old Garden Roses (Teas, Chinas, Noisettes, Bourbons, polyanthas, Hps, Earth-Kind), Modern shrubs, climbers, miniatures, Buck, Austin, Weeks roses, Rare Imports, Specializing in roses for warm climates. Almost 2000 vars, Catalog on line, order year round qts. and gallons. Potted and bare root.

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*Please note, [Cool Roses has moved](#). To **CONTACT THEM** phone or email using information above*



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022****Co-Presidents,** Debbie & Geoff Coolidge

Debbie 561-313-0077, Geoff 561-310-8508

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Our Consulting Rosarians are appointed by the American Rose Society after spending years growing roses and being tested on their overall knowledge of roses and their care. They freely share this knowledge with anyone who loves roses and wants to grow them.

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[becker.mike@att.net](mailto:becker.mike@att.net)

\* Master Rosarian

The club has an urgent need for more participation at the board and committee levels. We know we have many talented members, and for the club to continue to thrive, we invite anyone interested to contact any of the board members. Their contact info is on the left.

**Disclaimer:** While the advice and information in this newsletter is believed to be true and accurate at the time of publication, neither the authors nor the editor accept any legal responsibility for any errors of omissions that may have been made. We make no warranty, expressed or implied

## A PICNIC IN THE ROSE GARDEN

Hosted by: The Greater Palm Beach Rose Society

### JOIN US

We will be hosting a picnic at the home of Petra Russell, where her two acre garden showcases roses, and rare and exotic plants including bromeliads, orchids, palms, and tropical fruit trees.

The GPBRS will provide the hamburgers and buns, and we are asking you to bring a side dish.

### FLOWERS • FOOD • FUN

**MAY  
20**

- Event will begin at 11 AM
- This event is FREE to GPBRS members and their families.
- We welcome guests and prospective members for a charge of \$5.00 per person.

**6220 Kelty Way Lake Worth, FL 33467**

RSVP to Maria Wolfe at [tcacad\\_registrar@yahoo.com](mailto:tcacad_registrar@yahoo.com) with the side dish you would like to bring.

PLEASE RSVP BY MAY 12, 2023



Greater Palm Beach Rose Society

Around & About (Field Trip)

Saturday, May 6, 2023

Please join us on a trip to visit the Rose Gardens at the Port St. Lucie Botanical Garden in Port St. Lucie, Florida. As introduced to us by Joleen King and Anne Nourse, Friends of the Port St. Lucie Botanical Garden, at our February 27, 2023 meeting, the roses should be at their peak on Saturday, May 6, 2023. The Rose Garden was designed by our own Master Rosarian, Mike Becker and installed by the Rio Lindo Garden Club of Port St. Lucie. It promises to be a wonderful outing.

Carpools will leave from Mounts Botanical Garden at 9:00am arriving at the Port St. Lucie Botanical Garden at 10:00am. Please sign up by contacting Maria Wolfe at [tcacad\\_registrar@yahoo.com](mailto:tcacad_registrar@yahoo.com) or sign up at the GPBRS meeting Monday April 24. The entrance fee is \$5.00. Following our tour of the Botanical Garden, we will walk next door to Lefty's Wings and Grill for lunch. This will be at your own expense.

Please invite your friends and colleagues to join us. It promises to be a wonderful afternoon.

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The following two pages are from an article by our new member Anne Nourse. She is responsible for the Rose Garden we will be visiting in May: the PSLBG Rose Garden, maintained by the Rio Lindo Garden Club. Our own Mike Becker, our Master Consulting Rosarian, has played a large role in establishing this garden. You may notice him in the group photo on the second page of the article. He's a busy guy these days and we're thankful he is still supporting our Rose Society.

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## A New Beginning for the PSLBG Rose Garden: A Rio Lindo Garden Club Venture

by Anne O. Nourse

Roses are one of the most popular species of flowers in the world due to their beauty in appearance, fragrance, and taste that can express a variety of emotions such as love, purity, passion, regret, and sorrow. Most of the 100 different species of roses are native to Asia. We are fortunate that there are approximately 300 varieties of roses that can be grown in Central/South Florida.



When the Port St. Lucie Botanical Garden (PSLBG) was dedicated on March 4, 2009, a formal rose garden had been included in its original plans. Four sidewalk paths still cross in the middle of the four quadrants formed by dwarf Podocarpus hedges. Under Connie Lydon's tenure as President of the Rio Lindo Garden Club (RLGC), the RLGC voted to maintain the Rose Garden for the aesthetic enjoyment of visitors. Sixteen rose bushes were planted. These included "Prosperity," "Natchitoches Noisette," "Louis Philippe," and "Clotilde Soupert." Under the direction of Linda Trotter monthly workdays were held to keep the Rose Garden at its best for special occasions, such as graduations, engagements, and weddings.

At the suggestion of member Joleen King, in 2017, the RLGC purchased four moon gates to enhance the entrance to the Rose Garden. Some of the club's UF/IFAS Master Gardener members Gail Bird, Ilona Christie, Heather Furnari and Angie Reese planted six vines under the moon gates. These included the colorful blossoms of Blue Sky (*Thumbergia grandiflora*), yellowish orange Black-Eyed Susan (*Thumbergia Alata*), red Lady

Margaret Passionflower (*Passiflora* "Lady Margaret"), orange Flame (*Pyrostegia venusta*), purplish Blue Butterfly Pea (*Clitoria Ternatea*) and red endangered Native Morning Glory (*Ipomoea Gsagittata*) vines. Gulf Fritillary and Zebra Longwing butterflies can be admired eating their host vines and later flying as adults. (Blue Sky Vine shown).

In August 2020, the moon gates were refreshed with new native Blue Sky, Black-eyed Susan, and Coral Honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervivens*) vines.

In March of 2019, American Rose Society Master Rosarian and exhibition winner Mike Becker of Port St. Lucie, spoke at our meeting about general rose selection, care, and maintenance. Mike offered suggestions on how to better manage the roses in PSLBG. He agreed to work with me in leading a Rose Garden rejuvenation project. After proper approvals were received, members contributed to the purchase of plants, soil amendments and work power. Mike's new rose garden design features more varieties, colors and fragrances, all of which are disease and drought resistant. The Florida Federation of Garden Clubs awarded us their Clyde D. Ware Award for Civic Development for 2019-2020 for this project.

Soil preparation and planting started in March 2020 and was completed in July. Thirty -two roses (eight in each quadrant) including the original four "Louis Phillipe" rose bushes were planted. Throughout the summer daily watering supplemented the drip irrigation system. On-going maintenance now includes deadheading, weeding, fertilizing, mulching and pruning. Throughout this new undertaking, our club appreciates the



Continued on Pg14 13

Continued from Pg13



(RL Rosarians shown from l to r: Nancy Pocius, Virginia Waters, Isabel Raposo, Chair Anne Nourse, Mentor Mike Becker and PSLBG Board Member John Erickson)

significant support given to us from the PSLBG Horticultural Director Brenda Gustafson and RLGC President Elaine Minga. And, it is because of the tender loving care of a wonderful enthusiastic and dedicated group of RLGC members that the Rose Garden survives and is thriving today. Many special thanks go to Elaine Minga, Virginia Waters, Heather Furnari, me and PSLBG Board Member John Erickson for gardening throughout the hot summer days, with Darlene Enzian photographing.

The new garden has a variety of 17 species of roses, light-heavier fragrance, and colors from white to pink to red and yellow. It also features four classes of Old Garden Roses aka OGR (roses that were in a class before 1867) and four classes of Modern Roses (after the first hybrid tea in 1867 in addition to Floribundas, Austin and Modern shrubs). The original Louis Philippe rose (OGR, China) was introduced to the U.S. by Emily de Zavala, wife of the Mexican minister to France, 1834-35, on their land across from the San Jacinto Battleground while supporting the Texas Revolution. "Louis Philippe" has a lighter fragrance than the more heavily scented OGR blossoms of "Souvenir de St. Anne's" (Bourbon), "Ducher" (China), "Baronne Prevost" (Hybrid Perpetual) and "Rose de Rescht" (Portland). Another special rose "Veteran's Honor" (Modern, Hybrid Tea) is the most popular American rose noted for its classic red color and long stem.

Other Hybrid Teas are "Firefighter", "Memorial Day" and "Mister Lincoln". Modern Floribunda Roses "Iceberg", "First Crush" and

"Easy Spirit" have white flowers while "Julia Child" and "Sparkle and Shine" add yellow blossoms to the collection. Among the very fragrant Modern Roses (Austin Shrubs) are the flowers of "Heritage" and "Scepter'd Isle." "Lyda Rose," a Modern Shrub, shows numerous pinky white clusters of blooms.

These roses will bloom continuously throughout the year. Heavy pruning will take place in February to produce the first flush of blossoms in mid-April followed by a second flush approximately four weeks later. It will take about two years for the roses to fully establish. New signage has been added to the Rose Garden identifying each rose.

The RLGC invites you to stop by the Rose Garden taking time to "smell the roses" as well as enjoying its colorful array of flora. After your stroll by the roses, you may wish to add some to your own garden. If you would like to help with the care of the roses or learn more about roses, please contact Anne Nourse at [aonourse@verizon.net](mailto:aonourse@verizon.net).

